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"Version With Markings To Show Changes Made"

In the specification:

Paragraph beginning at page 14, line 15, has been amended as follows:

Microsatellite repeats identified in the HLA class II region (1.1 Mb from the HSET to TSBP genes, Figure 1) (The MHC sequencing consortium (1999) Nature 401, 921-923) amounted to 494 in total, consisting of 158 di-, 65 tri-, 163 tetra-, and 108 penta-nucleotide repeats (Table 1). Four tri-nucleotide repeats are localized inside the coding sequences of functional genes. The exon 4 of the Daxx gene included a microsatellite repeat M2_3_3, consisting of (GAG)₅ (SEQ ID NO:43), which encodes polyglutamic acids. Another microsatellite M2_3_4, (GAG)₂GAA(GAG)₃ (SEQ ID NO:44), localized in the exon 1 sequence of the BING1 gene, also encodes polyglutamic acids. The RXRB gene contained M2_3_8, (GCG)₆ (SEQ ID NO:45), which gives rise to polyalanines, in exon 1. The first exon of the COL11A2 gene possessed M2_3_10, (CTC)₄ (SEQ ID NO:46), which encodes polyleucines. Among them, the three microsatellite repeats, M2_3_3, M2_3_4, and M2_3_10, did not exhibit any repeat polymorphism.